

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01 EB-11

EUR-25 SCI-06 FEA-02 NEA-10 PRS-01 CPR-02 DRC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /128 W
----- 001589

P 171430Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5137

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 0058

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJ: ENERGY: FAVORABLE REACTION OF GABON TO PRESIDENT
NIXON'S LETTER

DEPT PASS T/IEP

REFC STATE 009353

1. PRESIDENT BONGO RETURNED LIBREVILLE FROM HIS TWO WEEK ARAB
TRIP EVENING JANUARY 15. HE GAVE NO PRESS CONFERENCE AT
AIRPORT.

2. I HAD ASKED TO SEE HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND HE
RECEIVED ME AFTERNOON JANUARY 16. I GAVE HIM PRESIDENT
NIXON'S LETTER WITH TRANSLTION (FROM WIRELESS FILE). HE
READ TRANSLATION VERY CAREFULLY, THOUGHT FOR A MOMENT, AND
THEN SAID TO ME: "PLEASE SEND MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT NIXON
THANKING HIM FOR HIS COURTESY IN SENDING ME THIS LETTER AND
INFORMING ME OF HIS PLANNED MEETING OF OIL CONSUMER NATIONS.
TELL HIM I CONSIDER THIS MOVE PERFECTLY NORMAL AND
A NATURAL PRELUDE TO A LATER MEETING BETWEEN MAJOR OIL PRODUCING
AND CONSUMING COUNTRIES. AS A MEMBER OF OPEC I WOULD BE
BOUND BY THEIR DECISIONS, BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT
GABON WISHES TO MAINTAIN CLOSEST AND FRIENDLIEST RELATIONS
WITH U.S."

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3. I TOOK OCCASION TO GIVE BONGO THE RECENTLY RECEIVED
COLORED AUTOGRAPHED PICTURE OF PRESIDENTS NIXON AND BONGO TAKEN
DURING LATTER'S TRIP TO U.S. IN AUGUST. HE SEEMED VERY PLEASED.
WE DISCUSSED SEVERAL OTHER SUBJECTS (REPORTED SEPTELS)
AND WHEN I ASKED ABOUT HIS TRIP HE TOLD ME TO MAKE AN
APPOINTMENT WITH HIM NEXT WEEK AND HE WOULD GIVE ME
HIS IMPRESSIONS OF THE ARABS.
MCKESSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, IMPORTS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LIBREV00058
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LIBREVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740135/aaaabhcc.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 AUG 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <10 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ENERGY: FAVORABLE REACTION OF GABON TO PRESIDENT NIXON'S LETTER
TAGS: ENRG, GB, US, OPEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005